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106

EASTERN EUROPE



SOVIET UNION



New SEA Policy The recall to Moscow of leading Soviet diplomats from Far Eastern posts and from the US indicates that the Kremlin may be reviewing its entire Far Eastern policy in order to plan for more aggressive action to counter Western anti-Communist efforts in the Far East, especially in Southeast Asia. Such a conference of Soviet representatives from Japan, India, Thailand, and possibly North Korea, together with the recall of the Soviet Ambassador to the US, who is a Far Eastern expert, emphasizes the importance of the area to the USSR at this time.

In Japan, the Kremlin might decide to shift from "legitimate" activities to concentrate on a subversive program as the most effective means of obstructing Western progress in Japan. The issuance of a second Soviet note demanding trial of Hirohito and the intensification of Communist activity in the face of a proposal to outlaw the Party indicate that the USSR is willing to risk having the Japanese Communist Party driven underground.

- 7 -

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